

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 11, and 14, and add new claims 17-30 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing a voice call establishment request from a ~~an~~ calling terminal to a called terminal, the method comprising:

detecting the call establishment request;

in response to said detecting, alerting the called terminal; ~~and~~

setting up a two-way connection between the calling terminal and the called terminal;

~~wherein the method further comprises:~~

determining that a two-way voice call between the calling terminal and the called terminal is not allowed; ~~and~~

receiving silent messages via ~~a user interface of said~~ the called terminal and/or the calling terminal; and

conveying information based on said silent messages to the calling terminal and/or the called terminal, respectively.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said determining is based on detecting a predetermined input via ~~the~~ a user interface of the called terminal after said alerting.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said determining is based on detecting a predetermined profile associated with the called terminal, the profile being set prior to said alerting.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the two-way connection is or comprises a chat connection.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said conveying comprises converting said silent messages to speech.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~1~~5, wherein said converting comprises text-to-speech synthesis.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~1~~5, wherein said converting comprises receiving an indication of one of a plurality of predetermined voice messages.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~1~~7, wherein said plurality of predetermined voice messages is dimensioned such that any predetermined voice message is selectable without moving fingers on the user interface.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the determining step is carried out by a network element.

10. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5, wherein the converting step is carried out by a network element.

11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for processing a voice call establishment request from a ~~an~~ calling terminal to a called terminal, ~~the called terminal comprising alerting means for alerting a user and means for setting up a two-way connection between the calling terminal and the called terminal,~~ the apparatus comprising:

means for detecting the call establishment request; ~~wherein the apparatus further comprises:~~

means for determining that a two-way voice call between the calling terminal and the called terminal is not allowed;

means for receiving silent messages via the called terminal's ~~user interface;~~ and

means for conveying information based on said silent messages to the calling terminal.

12. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the apparatus is located in a network element.

13. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the apparatus is located in the called terminal.

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for processing a voice call establishment request from a ~~an~~ calling terminal to a called terminal, ~~the called terminal comprising alerting means for alerting a user and means for setting up a two-way connection between the calling terminal and the called terminal,~~ the apparatus being configured to

detect the call establishment request;

~~wherein the apparatus is further configured to:~~

determine that a two-way voice call between the calling terminal and the called terminal is not allowed;

receive silent messages via the called terminal's ~~user interface;~~ and

convey information based on said silent messages to the calling terminal.

15. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the apparatus is located in a network element.

16. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the apparatus is located in the called terminal.

17. (New) A mode converter for changing call mode, the mode converter configured to change the call mode from a voice call to a non-voice call.

18. (New) A mode converter according to claim 17, wherein the mode converter comprises a speech synthesizer for converting chat responses to speech.

19. (New) A mode converter according to claim 17, wherein the mode converter is configured to store pre-recorded voice responses.

20. (New) A user interface in a called terminal and/or a calling terminal, wherein the user interface is configured to

select a desired call mode; and

if a two-way voice call between the called terminal and the calling terminal is not allowed, receive silent messages from the calling terminal and/or the called terminal.

21. (New) A user interface according to claim 20, wherein said silent messages are chat responses.

22. (New) A user interface according to claim 20, wherein it is configured to select predetermined voice messages such that any predetermined voice message is selectable by a user without moving fingers on the user interface.

23. (New) A communication system, the system being configured to detect a voice call establishment request from a calling terminal to a called terminal;

in response to said detecting, alert the called terminal;

set up a two-way connection between the calling terminal and the called terminal;

determine that a two-way voice call between the calling terminal and the called terminal is not allowed; and

receive silent messages via said called terminal and/or calling terminal and convey information based on said silent messages to the calling terminal and/or the called terminal, respectively.

24. (New) A method according to claim 1, further comprising:

presenting an audio alert in the called terminal.

25. (New) A method according to claim 1, further comprising:

presenting a visual alert in the called terminal.

26. (New) A method according to claim 3, further comprising:

executing a plurality of options in said predetermined profile according to rules in said predetermined profile.

27. (New) A apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said determination by said means for determining is based on detecting a predetermined profile associated with the called terminal, the profile being set prior to said alerting.

28. (New) A apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said determination by said apparatus is based on detecting a predetermined profile associated with the called terminal, the profile being set prior to said alerting.

29. (New) A user interface according to claim 20, wherein when determining that the two-way voice call between the called terminal and the calling terminal is not allowed, said determination is based on detecting a predetermined profile associated with the called terminal, the profile being set prior to said alerting.

30. (New) A communication system according to claim 23, wherein said determination by said system is based on detecting a predetermined profile associated with the called terminal, the profile being set prior to said alerting.